



Montgomery County Council

From the Office of Councilmember Phil Andrews

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Montgomery Councilmember Phil Andrews to Participate in League of Women Voters Panel on Increasing Voter Participation

*On Wednesday, Oct. 22, in Potomac, He Will Talk About
Initiatives That Can Induce More Residents to Get Involved*

ROCKVILLE, Md., October 21, 2014—Montgomery County Councilmember Phil Andrews, who has actively endorsed several initiatives that he believes would increase the participation of residents in the local political process, will be among the speakers at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 22, at the Normandie Farm Restaurant in Potomac as the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County hosts a panel discussion on “How to Better Engage Voters in the Political Process.”

The forum will be part of the League of Women Voters lunch meeting. Normandie Farm is located at 10710 Falls Road in Potomac.

Representatives from the Montgomery County Board of Elections and the County’s Right to Vote Task Force also will participate on the panel.

Councilmember Andrews was the chief sponsor of a bill unanimously enacted by the Council earlier this fall which will allow candidates for County Council and County Executive to qualify for partial public financing for their campaigns. This is the first measure of its type for County elective offices in the Washington Region and in the State of Maryland. It also was the first time any county in the nation enacted this type of legislation.

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“The goals of this plan are to reduce the influence of big money in County elections and on County public policy, encourage more residents to participate in County elections and expand opportunities for more candidates to run for County office who do not have access to big contributions from interest groups or individuals,” said Councilmember Andrews.

Councilmember Andrews also will talk about how gerrymandering lessens the power and participation of voters. He has been a vocal opponent of the redesigned 3rd Congressional District of Maryland, which includes part of Montgomery.

He also will talk about opening primaries to all voters.

“Voting is the most powerful way to have your voice heard, and it is the core of our democracy,” the League of Women Voters says on its web site. “It’s your chance to stand up for what matters most to you and have an impact on the issues that affect you, your community and your future.”

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